Legislation on sale of Gutka

1906. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating extension of legislative and material supports to States and UTs Administrations to ban the sale of Gutka (packed chewing tobacco) in order to reduce the incidents of Oral Cancer in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the trend in the incidents of Oral Cancer for the last three years alongwith volume of expenditure incurred in medical treatment of those affected, year-wise; and

(d) the details of the future scenario of the trend of incidents of Oral Cancer *vis-a-vis* steps being taken to deal with it?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The Food (Health) Authorities of States/ UT Governments have independent powers under the Provisions of Section 7 (iv) of the PFA Act, 1954, to prohibit the sale of any article of food, for the time being, in the interest of Public Health.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is against the glorification of tobacco and tobacco products. The Government has introduced a Bill in the Parliament namely, the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution), Bill 2001, to discourage the use of such products through measures such as, *inter alia,* prohibition of advertisement and banning sale to minors.

(c) Year-wise estimates of expenditure on medical treatment of oral cancer cases are not maintained. A study conducted by ICMR on the cost of treatment of Tobacco related cancers in 1990 indicated an average expenditure of Rs. 1.34 lakhs per case. However, it may be noted that the expenditure reflects expenditure incurred both by the Government and the individuals. As per the information about trend of Oral Cancer, which is available from Population Based Cancer Registry is functioning under National Cancer Registry Programme of ICMR, the trend of Oral Cancer in Registry areas from 1982 to 1996 suggest a decline in incidence rates. However, according to ICMR, in view of the widespread use of tobacco and its products during the last decade, a rise in the incidence of Oral Cancers is expected in future. The early trend of this change is possibly being reflected in the increase in age adjusted

incidence of Cancer of Oral Cavity during 1996-1998 among males in Delhi and both sexes in Bhopal.

(d) The Government has introduced a draft legislation namely,-The cigarettes and other tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill, 2001 for discouraging the consumption of tobacco and tobacco products including Gutka.

Centrally sponsored Health Schemes in Himachal Pradesh

1907. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Centrally sponsored Health Schemes and Programmes formulated and implemented in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the details of funds allocated, released and actually utilized in Himachal Pradesh during this period, district-wise; and

(c) the details of achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Government is implementing Centrally sponsored National Health Programmes for control of major disease like Malaria, Leprosy, AIDS, Blindness and TB in the country including Himachal Pradesh. Financial assistance provided to Himachal Pradesh during the last three years under these programmes is given below. District-wise allocations are not made under different health programmes.

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1990-00		2000-01		2001-02	
	Allocation/ Released	Expendi- ture	Allocation/ Released	Expendi- ture	Allocation/ Released	Expendi- ture
Malaria	46.11	92.45	90.30	89.06	2.20	36.78
Leprosy	54.53	54.53	61.00	52.00	49.69	49.99
AIDS	318.00	227.02	262.50	266.68	308.50	276.80
Blindness	86.25	67.78	131.00	141.18	51.51	78.29
Tuberculosis	132.37	105.88	114.84	324.13	183.57	142.12